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IN INSULAR POSSESSIONS.

GUAM.

Agana—Communicable Diseases.

The following statement was received from Surg. C. P. Kindelberger, United States Navy, health officer: During the nine weeks ended March 15, 1913, communicable diseases were reported at Agana as follows: Cerebrospinal meningitis, 1 case with 1 death; erysipelas, 2 cases with 1 death; hookworm disease, 102 cases; tuberculosis, 13 cases with 12 deaths. The total number of deaths from all causes was 47. The population of Agana is 6,000.

HAWAII.

Examination of Rodents.

During the week ended April 19, 1913, rats and mongoose were examined as follows: Hilo, 1,129; Honokaa, 1,863. No plague-infected rodent was found.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Quarantine Circular—Rat Guards on Vessels.

MANILA, P. I., April 3, 1913.

To the masters, owners, and agents of vessels, and others concerned:

SIRS: In order to prevent the spread of plague by water routes it is hereby directed that all vessels plying between Philippine ports, or from foreign ports, tying up at wharfs, quays, or piers in the Philippine Islands shall have all lines of the vessel to wharf or lighter provided with rat guards of an approved pattern, so placed as to prevent the rats on vessel from escaping therefrom and rats from shore or lighter from gaining access to the vessel. This procedure shall be in effect at every port in the Philippine Islands where there is a wharf or quay, and shall apply to every vessel coming alongside said wharf or quay.

Samples of approved rat guards may be seen at this office or at the quarantine office at any of the various ports of entry. Masters

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of vessels should immediately provide themselves with sufficient guards so that no line at any time need be in position without the necessary rat guard.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

VICTOR G. HEISER,

Director of Health and Chief Quarantine Officer.

PORTO RICO.

Rodents Collected and Examined.

Passed Asst. Surg. Creel reports that during the week ended May 3, 1913, there were examined 1,753 rodents, collected from various points in Porto Rico, and that of these 654 were collected from various parts of San Juan municipality. None was found plague infected.